

**Listing of Claims**

1-10. (Withdrawn)

11. (Original) A method for providing a client with a reliable connection to a host service, the method comprising:

establishing a first connection between the client and a first protocol service using a first protocol, the first protocol for encapsulating a plurality of secondary protocols;

establishing a second connection between the first protocol service and the host service using one of the plurality of secondary protocols;

maintaining a queue of data packets most recently transmitted via the first connection on at least one of the client and the first protocol service; and

upon failure of the first connection:

maintaining the second connection;

continuing to maintain the queue of data packets most recently transmitted via the first connection; and

establishing a third connection between the client and the first protocol service using the first protocol.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11 further comprising transmitting at least one of the queued data packets via the third connection.

13-55. (Withdrawn)

56. (Original) A system for providing a client with a reliable connection to a host service, the system comprising:

a first protocol service configured to accept a first connection with the client, establish a second connection with the host service, and, upon failure of the first connection: maintain the second connection and accept a third connection from the client; and

the host service configured to accept the second connection with the first protocol service and, upon failure of the first connection: maintain the second connection,

wherein the first connection and the third connection are each established using a first protocol, the first protocol for encapsulating a plurality of secondary protocols, and wherein at least one of the client and the first protocol service is further configured to maintain, before and upon failure of the first connection, a queue of data packets most recently transmitted via the first connection.

57. (Original) The system of claim 56 wherein the client is further configured to transmit at least one of the queued data packets via the third connection.

58. (Original) The system of claim 56 wherein the first protocol service is further configured to transmit at least one of the queued data packets via the third connection.

59-91. (Withdrawn)